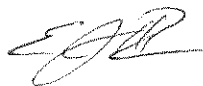




INDIANA COMMISSION  
*for*  
HIGHER EDUCATION

TO: Financial Aid Directors

FROM: Eugene Johnson, Director of Student Awards 

RE: UPDATED - Emancipated Minor and Legal Guardianship Status

DATE: March 5, 2013

Beginning with the 2013-2014 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), if a student's independent status is solely caused by his or her indication of Emancipated Minor or Legal Guardianship status, the student's FAFSA will receive an Edit 28.

Previously, the State of Indiana did not recognize emancipated minors for purposes of state financial aid awards. In order to receive state financial aid, an emancipated minor had to include parental information in the appropriate sections of the FAFSA or be approved for a Professional Judgment by the institution's Financial Aid Administrator. Students under legal guardianship automatically were accepted as independent students and no further intervention was required.

Edit 28, whether related to Emancipated Minor or Legal Guardianship status, now may be cleared by the Financial Aid Administrator after documented proof of legal status is provided by the student. Students who receive Edit 28 on their FAFSAs receive the following explanation:

**Please review your answer to questions 53 and 54 on the 2013-2014 FAFSA.**

You indicated you are an emancipated minor or in legal guardianship on your 2013-2014 FAFSA. If this is correct, your school may clear this edit after verifying your status. If this is incorrect, you will need to change your answer to question 53 (emancipated minor) or 54 (legal guardianship) from "Yes" to "No" and include parental information in appropriate sections. If you are unable to obtain parental information due to family circumstances, ask the Financial Aid Administrator at your college whether a "Professional Judgment" can be used to clear this edit. **Failure to correct this edit by the May 15, 2013 edit correction deadline will make you ineligible for the Frank O'Bannon Grant, 21st Century Scholarship, National Guard Supplemental Grant or National Guard Extension Scholarship.**

Students who answered questions on the FAFSA incorrectly must provide corrections and parental information by the May 15, 2013 edit correction deadline. However, schools may clear the edit, for those students who are emancipated minors or in legal guardianship, after the deadline.

If you have any questions about this policy change, please contact the Division of Student Financial Aid at [CollegeFA@sfa.che.in.gov](mailto:CollegeFA@sfa.che.in.gov).